4. (Amended) A data processing method, [wherein] comprising:

[in the case of externally outputting] conveying digital data to a plurality of outputs;

[to which predetermined control data to be supplied is added,] adding predetermined copy control data to said digital data; and

[via plural output systems, said output systems are controlled in order to output said digital data via only one specified output system out of said plural output systems according to the contents of copy restriction based on said control data] controlling said plurality of outputs such that only a specified one of said plurality of outputs allows said digital data to be output according to said predetermined copy control data.

5. (Amended) The data processing method according to [Claim] claim 4, wherein the step of adding predetermined control data further comprises:

adding said [control means adds] predetermined copy control data to said digital data to be output [via] from [only] said one specified output [terminal].

6. (Amended) The data processing method according to [Claim] claim 4, wherein [the contents of said copy restriction show that copy is prohibited, or copy is allowed only once] said predetermined copy control data indicates whether said digital data can be copied.

IN THE ABSTRACT:

Delete the Abstract and insert therefor the following new Abstract attached hereto: